



A gathering at the old German Hall in Midway. Pictured are, first row, left to right, Fred Kuhni, Ernest Kuhni, Sterling Morton, William Boss, John Durtschi, Joseph Burgen-er, Alfred Durtschi, William Durtschi, Huldreich Durtschi, Johnnie Durtschi. Second row, Rose Kuhni, Otto Kuhni, Ida Kohler, Clara Buehler, Alma Durtschi, Alice Durtschi, Emma Durtschi. Third row, Maudie Utiger, Elizabeth Mooseman, Louise Kuhni, Barbara Bauer, Catherine L. Durtschi, Conrad Gertsch Sr., Ulrich Buehler, Johannes Krebs, John Bauer, Mrs. John Kummer. Fourth row, Ulrich Probst, Susan Probst, Emma Hasler, Mary Huber Probst, Mary B. Schoney, Elize Durtschi, Carolina Durtschi, Elize Durtschi Gertsch, Maryanne Zenger, Annie Abegglen, Margaret Stucki. Fifth row, John Burgener Jr., Fred Hasler, Eliza Buehler, Anna K. Probst, Elizabeth Kohler, Emma K. Probst, Mrs. Michael Abplanalp, Mrs. Albert Lockner, Mrs. Fred Haueter and baby, Eliza Erns-berger, Anna Seifert, Maggie Boss. Sixth row, Jacob Baumgartner, Henry Zenger, John Besendorfer, Gottlieb Kohler, Ulrich Kuhni, John U. Buehler, Michael Shilt, Fredrick Remund, Martin Seifert, John Kummer. Seventh row, Edward Durtschi Jr., Fred Buehler, Fredrick Durtschi Jr., Fredrick Durtschi Sr., John Boss, Jacob Probst, Edward Durtschi Sr., Ulrich Abegglen, Alfred Durtschi and Henry Zenger Sr.

GOTTLIEB AND ELIZABETH MUELLER KOHLER

Gottlieb Kohler, son of Melchior Kohler and Barbara Riedwyl was born December 4, 1845 at Meiringen, Switzerland. Elizabeth Mueller, daughter of Samuel Edward Muel-ler and Anna Dietrich, was born September 28, 1847, at Koeniz, Switzerland. Died 1929 in Midway.

As a young man, Gottlieb studied medi-cine until his father met with an accident which left him deaf and dumb. Gottlieb mastered the deaf and dumb language and became a shoemaker, working with his father. It was while in the shoe business,

OW BEAUTIFUL UPON THE MOUNTAINS



Gottlieb met and married Elizabeth, a young tailoress, on November 17, 1869 in the Protestant Church at Thun, Switzerland, of which they were both members.

Their first home was with Gottlieb's fa-ther, his mother having died. Later while living with Elizabeth's aunt, two LDS mis-sionaries found Elizabeth and Gottlieb. Af-ter a great deal of investigation, Gottlieb and the three oldest children were baptized on October 7, 1882 by John Hafen. Because of severe ridicule of friends and family, Eli-zabeth was not easily convinced regarding Mormonism. However, the following year, on April 7, 1883, she was baptized by John Stucki.

Soon the spirit of gathering to Zion en-tered their hearts. Together, the family worked hard making and selling shoes to ob-tain money for their trip to America. In the spring of 1884 the oldest boy Emil, then 12, and Bertha of eight years, were sent to Utah with the Elders, to be followed in two years by the rest of the family.

They arrived in Salt Lake City on June 7, 1886 where after two years of separa-tion, they were reunited with Emil and Bertha. The first night was spent in the old Tithing Office, sleeping on the floor. John Buhler met them the following morning and took them to Midway to make their home.

Conditions were not always good in their new home. Many hardships and trials came to test their faith. Four more children were added to the family, making 13 children for the parents to rear to adulthood.

Gottlieb was very active in organizing the Swiss people who built their own hall and met regularly where the gospel could be taught in their native tongue. He was a good musician, played the accordion and conducted the singing. Under an appoint-ment of the Town Board, Gottlieb became the town doctor and dentist and for years

Gottlieb KOHLER

MIDWAY BIOGRAPHIES

unselfishly administered to the sick in Mid-way.

In order to make a living for his family, Gottlieb worked as a rock mason and later did shoemaking and farming. Elizabeth assisted with gardening and raising chickens.

The desire of their hearts was achieved on November 29, 1888, when Elizabeth and Gottlieb traveled by horse and wagon to the Logan Temple, and were sealed for time and eternity. On April 29, 1903 the chil-dren were sealed to their parents in the Salt Lake Temple. The family has con-tinued to be active in genealogy work.

Gottlieb returned to his native land to fill a mission as did three of the sons: Emil, Au-gust and Fred. Emil was the first son to go on a mission, leaving when only 19 years of age. Six years later he returned to Switz-erland for a second mission and converted Elizabeth's mother, Anna Mueller, the only member of either family to ever join the Church. She came to Midway where she lived until her death at 82 years of age. She is buried in the Midway Cemetery.

Albert and Ida filled missions also as did 20 grandchildren and five great-grandchil-dren. The Kohler family has, through the years been active in Church and civic af-fairs, following the traditions of their noble parents.

Children of Gottlieb and Elizabeth Koh-ler included:

Emil G., married Elizabeth Kupfer;
Mrs. Ernest Probst (Emma)
Ernest, married Mary Bigler;
Mrs. Joseph Chanty (Bertha);
August, married Eliza Wintch;
Frederick, married Lucetta Clegg;
Mrs. Hugh Coleman (Alice)
Mrs. Orson Mathews (Leah)
Mrs. Jonas Halverson (Clara)
Alexander, died in youth;
Mrs. George Jones (Louise);
Albert, married Elsie Richards;
Mrs. Edwin Circuit (Ida).